



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Ocean Service
Office of Response and Restoration
Emergency Response Division
7600 Sand Point Way N.E. - Bin C15700
Seattle, Washington 98115

April 26, 2007

Dear ESI User,

The enclosed DVD is a re-release of the GIS and PDF files for three of the Alaska ESI atlases. Included are the Prince William Sound data, originally used to create the hard copy atlas published in July 2000, the Aleutian Island data, used in the atlas released in September 2001, and the Bristol Bay data, used in the January 2004 atlas.

The new DVD product was produced in large part to accommodate new and ever changing technologies in the world of digital mapping. The data are now included in a Geodatabase format, for use with ESRI's ArcGIS product line. An .mxd file, also included, has the geodatabase feature classes symbolized with standard ESI colors and hatch patterns and relates are pre-established to the ESI data tables. Just drag the folder named for the area from inside the geodatabase directory on to your own hard drive. Tools are included to help with querying the ESI biology data and generating resource at risk reports. Check at <http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/esitoolkit> on occasion to see if there are any additional tools or bug fixes posted. Layer files enable those with existing map projects in the area, to integrate individual ESI feature classes. These layer files provide the appropriate symbolization and legend and also have stored the relates to the data tables. If the data tables are loaded, the ESI tools should work with these layer files in user defined projects as well as with the .mxd provided. The .mxd and the layer files were both created in ArcMap 9.2, and will require that version or later for use.

Updates to the ESI Viewer product are also included. This viewer, intended for users without access to commercial GIS software, includes an ESI project for each atlas, complete with standard symbolization and links to the attributes of the map objects. The mapping engine, Marplot, has been updated to the most recent release version 3.3.3 and the database side now takes advantage of a runtime version of Filemaker 8. System requirements on the Macintosh platform require a post 10.3 version of Mac OS X. The Windows version requires a minimum system of Windows 2000 – service pack 4, or Windows XP – service pack 2.

The PDFs for each of these Alaska atlases have been modified so that the seasonality, or back of the map, pages are now a part of each map document. This will make it easier to distribute and print individual maps and ensure that the supporting information is always included.

If you have any difficulties or questions about using these data, please contact us at: orr.esi@noaa.gov

Sincerely,

Jill Petersen
ESI Program Manager

